

Senate Education Committee Amendment No. 1

Amendment No. 1 to SB4104

Woodson
Signature of Sponsor

FILED

Date _____

Time _____

Clerk _____

Comm. Amdt. _____

AMEND Senate Bill No. 4104

House Bill No. 4089*

By deleting all language after the enacting clause and by substituting instead the following language:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 10, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

49-6-10__.

(a) The state board of education is authorized to approve a curriculum for an elective state funded course consisting of an academic study of the Bible.

(b) An LEA that elects to offer a course and use associated textbooks approved in accordance with subsection (a) shall implement such course in accordance with the Constitutions of the United States and Tennessee, including the manner in which the course is taught in the classroom and the assignment by the LEA of the individual teaching the course. The individual assigned to teach the course shall meet all certification requirements and all other provisions of this chapter relating to personnel employed by local units of administration. In addition, no person shall be assigned to teach such course based in whole or in part on any religious test, profession of faith or lack of faith, prior or present religious affiliation or lack of affiliation, or criteria involving particular beliefs or lack of beliefs about the Bible or in violation of Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 80 or Section 49-6-2906.

(c) Nothing in subsection (a) shall be construed as mandating that an LEA use the curriculum developed under subsection (a) for an academic study of the Bible or prohibiting an LEA from adopting its own curriculum for an academic study of the Bible; provided, that any academic study of the Bible so offered shall be approved as a special course according to the rules of the state board of education.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008, the public welfare requiring it.